For immediate release – Dec. 28 2009

**ODH ORDERS ADDITIONAL H1N1 FLU VACCINE**

*Columbus –* The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) submitted orders for 172,400 doses of H1N1 flu vaccine to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) last week. The vaccine will be shipped directly to 305 enrolled medical providers, including local health districts, hospitals, federally qualified health centers, nursing homes, pharmacies and state institutional facilities.

The order includes 10,900 doses of nasal-spray vaccine and 161,500 shots of H1N1 flu vaccine.

The vaccine orders should begin arriving at provider offices and clinics today, according to CDC.

ODH has previously ordered 3,662,700 doses of H1N1 vaccine, bringing Ohio’s total to 3,835,100 doses thus far. More vaccine is expected to be available in the coming weeks.

The vaccine orders should begin arriving at provider offices and clinics today, according to CDC.

ODH is also reminding parents and health care providers that children younger than 10 should receive two doses of H1N1 flu vaccine in order to achieve optimal protection against pandemic flu. Children who had their first dose on or before November 30th, 2009 are now eligible for their second dose. The CDC recommends that the two doses of H1N1 vaccine be separated by 28 days to be effective.

For more information on vaccine availability, check the ODH Web site at http://www.flu.ohio.gov or call the ODH H1N1 information line at 1-866-800-1404 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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**Contact:** State of Ohio Joint Information Center – (614) 799-6480